

## Message Text

PAGE 01 BELGRA 01116 161535 Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 CU-04 NIC-01 PM-09 EURE-00 RSR-01

INRE-00 /055 W

----- 073448

P 1413 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5712

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 1116

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV ORAL PROTEST OVER CAMP COUNSELOR INTERVIEWS

REF: BELGRADE 1096; 1097; 1109; 1110

1. SUMMARY: AMERICAS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CALLED IN POL COUNSELOR MARCH 16 TO ORALLY "EXPRESS DISSATISFACTION" WITH ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN OFFICERS IN CAMP COUNSELOR INTERVIEWS, CALLING QUESTIONS "POLITICAL" AND "PROVOCATIVE", AND ASKING THAT AMERICANS REFRAIN FROM SUCH ACTIVITIES IN FUTURE. POL COUNSELOR ASSURED KREACIC OF US DESIRE THAT INCIDENT NOT BE DISTORTED, AND EXPRESSED STRONG US ANNOYANCE AT MISREPRESENTATIONS IN PRESS AND BY FEDERAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF NATURE OF INTERVIEWS AND ROLE PLAYED BY AMERICANS. END SUMMARY.

2. FSFA NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAS DIRECTOR KREACIC CALLED IN POLCOUNSELOR MORNING OF MARCH 16 TO "DRAW THE ATTENTION FO THE USG" TO THE RECENT EVENTS IN LJUBLJANA WITH REGARD TO INTERVIEWS FOR THE CAMP COUNSELOR PROGRAM, AND "EXPRESS DISSATISFACTION WITH THE QUESTIONING OF THE STUDENTS - BOTH AS TO METHOD AND SUBSTANCE". KREACIC CITED SERIES OF SUPPOSED QUESTIONS, ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS THOSE CARRIED IN MARCH 16 MLADOST COVERAGE OF THE INCIDENT (REPORTED SEPTTEL). TERMING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BELGRA 01116 161535 Z

THE QUESTIONS "POLITICAL" IN NATURE AND OF A "PROVACTIVE CHARACTER", KREACIC SAID THAT YUGOSLAVIA CONSIDERS SUCH A

PRACTICE " IMPERMISSIBLE", AND SAID THAT THE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS AND SELECTION OF CANDIDATES ON THAT BASIS " REPRESENT AN INTER-FERENCE IN YUGOSLAV INTERNAL AFFAIRS BOTH AS TO METHOD AND AS TO SUBSTANCE".

3. KREACIC THEN SAID THAT THE GOY DESIRES TO CONTINUE TO ADVANCE ALL FORMS OF MUTUALLY USEFUL EXCHANGES ON BASIS OF ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH JOINT STATEMENT OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS. HOWEVER, " SUCH METHODS" RATHER THAN LEADING TO ENLARGING OF EXCHANGES " COULD RESULT IN THE OPPOSITE". CALLING ACTIVITIES OF INTERVIEWERS A " MISUSING OF THEIR PROPER ROLE", KREACIC SAID THAT " WHILE PROTESTING AGAINST SUCH PRACTICE, WE EXPECT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES WILL STOP SUCH PRACTICES AND STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO SEE THAT SUCH OR SIMILAR PRACTICES WILL NOT BE REPEATED".

4. KREACIC THEN REITERATED THE GOY DESIRE TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT OF GHE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN ALL FIELDS, ADDING PERSONAL HOPE THAT USG WOULD NOT VIEW THIS MATTER OUT OF CONTEXT, BUT WOULD PLACE IT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE OF BEING ONLY AN INCIDENT IN OUR OTHERWISE GOOD RELATIONS.

5. POCOUNSELOR RESPONDED THAT IT WAS CLEAR THERE EXISTED A BASIC LACK OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SODES ON NATURE OF QUESTIONS POSED AND CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THEY WERE ASKED. SINCE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT PRESUMABLY WOULD ONLY RESULT IN RESTATEMENT OF POSITIONS, IT WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE. TWO THINGS SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD, HOWEVER, ABOUT US VIEW OF THIS INCIDENT. FIRST, WE REGRET THAT IT HAS BECOME AN ISSUE BECAUSE IT WOULD JEOPARDIZE THIS AND OTHER GOOD PROGRAMS LIKE IT. SECOND, NATURE OF THE PREVIOUS QUESTIONS ASIDE, AMBASSADOR TOON HAD ASKED THAT KREACIC BE ASSURED THE EMBASSY WOULD IN FUTURE TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION TO ENSURE THAT PARTICIPATION OF AMERICAN OFFICERS IN SUCH PROGRAMS COULD IN NO WAY BE CONSTRUED AS IT HAD BEEN IN THIS INSTANCE.

6. POLCOUNSELOR THEN EXPRESSED EMBASSY ANNOYANCE AT PRESS DISTORTION OF INCIDENT AND ROLE PLAYED BY AMERICANS. IN EXPLAINING THAT ROLE, HE POINTED OUT THAT STATEMENTS IN MEDIA, AND IN PROTEST OF FEDERAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION ( WHICH WHILE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BELGRA 01116 161535 Z

CARRIED IN PRESS HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED BY EMBASSY) MADE IT SEEM AS IF THE AMERICANS HAD A CONTROLLING ROLE, WHICH THEY CLEARLY DID NOT. MOST ANNOYING WAS FACT THAT THESE MISREPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE INTENTIONALLY BY THE FEDERAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION, WHICH OBVIOUSLY KNEW THEM TO BE UNTRUE. THUS, POTENTIAL FOR DAMAGE TO BILATERAL RELATIONS IN THIS INCIDENT RESTS IN LARGE MEASURE NOT IN WHAT WAS DONE, BUT IN THE WAY IT HAS BEEN MISREPRESENTED TO YUGOSLAV PUBLIC BY DISTORTED PRESS COVERAGE.

7. MEETING ENDED AMICABLY, WITH KREACIC REITERATING HOPE THAT EMBASSY AND USG WOULD KEEP YUGOSLAV EXPRESSING OF VIEW ON THIS MATTER IN CONTEXT OF OUR OVERALL GOOD RELATIONS, AND THE CONTINUING YUGOSLAV DESIRE TO GO FORWARD WITH COOPERATION IN ALL AREAS.

8. COMMENT: KREACIC PLAYED HIS PROTESTING ROLE WITH OBVIOUS DISCOMFORT, AND IN SPEAKING CAREFULLY STRUCK TO TWO TYPED DOCUMENTS, WHICH HE SLOWLY TRANSLATED FROM SERBO- CROATIAN TO ENGLISH. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HE PREFACED PASSAGES WITH PHRASES SUCH AS " ACCORDING TO MY INFORMATION" OR " FROM WHAT I HAVE HERE". HE MADE CAREFUL NOTES ON POLCOUNSELOR' S RESPONSE, BUT DID NOT COMMENT ON THEM. WHILE PRESS CAMPAIGN ON THIS INCIDENT MAY CONTINUE, E. G., POSSIBLE ARTICLE IN COMING EDITION OF NIN, IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE KREACIC PRESENTATION THAT THE FOREIGN SECRETARIAT ( OR AT LEAST THE AMERICAS DEPARTMENT) WISHES TO PUT THE ISSUE TO REST. FONOFF INFLUENCE MAY BE MINIMAL, HOWEVER, AND ISSUE MAY CONTINUE TO BE A LIVE ONE, SINCE IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT HIGHER POLITICAL AUTHORITY HAS DECIDED TO USE IT IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST INCURSION OF FOREIGN INFLUENCE. TOON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 02 APR 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BELGRA01116  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BELGRADE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730346/abqcdwzo.tel  
**Line Count:** 132  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BELGRADE 1096; 1097; 1109; 1110  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <15-Oct-2001 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** YUGOSLAV ORAL PROTEST OVER CAMP COUNSELOR INTERVIEWS  
**TAGS:** PFOR YO  
**To:** STATE INFO ZAGREB  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005